

**Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Task Force on Blind Student Academic and Vocational Performance
Nominee Information Form**

Persons needing Braille or large print copies of the following should contact the Division of Special Education at 573-751-0601. This document may also be emailed or faxed upon request.

Missouri statutes provide for formation of a Task Force on Blind Student Academic and Vocational Performance. According to the statute, “this task force shall develop goals and objectives to guide the improvement of special education, related services, vocational training, transition from school to work, rehabilitation services, independent living and employment outcomes for eligible students” (§162.1130.3).

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is seeking nominations of persons to this task force.

The current openings on the task force are for:

One (1) Public School Special Education Administrator
One (1) Public School Building Administrator
Two (2) Student Representatives
One (1) Orientation and Mobility Specialist

Appointment of members will ensure that the following categories and the designated number of each are represented on the Blind Task Force:

- Missouri School for the Blind (1)
- Department of Social Services (DSS) (1)
- Consumer organizations (NFB/MCB) (1 from each)
- Teachers of the visually impaired (2)
- Special Education administrators (1)
- School building principals (1)
- Current students (2) (a student who is currently enrolled in a secondary or postsecondary school)
- Parents of blind or visually impaired students (2)
- Employers (1)
- Institutions of Higher Education (1)
- Rehabilitation Council for the Blind (FSD) (1)
- Orientation and mobility specialists (1)
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (1)

This membership may be modified by the Commissioner of Education, in cooperation with the Director of the Department of Social Services. Appointments to the Task Force will be made by the Commissioner of Education, in cooperation with the Director of the MO Department of Social Services. Individuals appointed to the Task Force must be in compliance with House Bill 600. A background check will be done by the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

The Task Force will meet at least quarterly in the mid-MO area. All reasonable and necessary expenses will be paid by the state agency. Appointees will be expected to attend all meetings and actively participate in all Task Force activities. The state agency will reimburse expenses for all reasonable accommodations that may be needed by task force members.

The purpose of the task force is to work with DESE and DSS to promote literacy and vocational performance among students with visual impairments. Specific duties of the task force include:

- Conduct an annual report from DESE to the State Legislature about the literacy of blind and visually-impaired children
- Oversee the DESE and Rehabilitation Services for the Blind joint referral system
- Oversee the Blindness Skills Specialist Fund
- Oversee a purchasing preference in textbook materials between public schools and textbook vendors. The authorizing legislation is cited as Chapter 162.1130, et.seq., RSMO and can be found at <http://www.dese.state.mo.us/divspeced/Blind/literacy.html>

Nominees are asked to complete the following information along with a current resume.

First and last name of nominee (please print).
Social Security Number
Date of Birth
Mailing address of nominee (please print).
Voice line of nominee.
Fax line of nominee.
Email address of nominee.
Please identify information for two persons who can serve as references to your professional work. 1. 2.
Which "membership category (ies)" of the Task Force are you applying to fill? Current Vacancies: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One (1) Public School Special Education Administrator• One (1) Public School Building Administrator• Two (2) Student Representatives• One (1) Orientation and Mobility Specialist
What other state-wide or regional task forces, advisory panels or such organizations are you or have you been a member of?
What accommodations, if any, do you require?

Please return to:

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